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UNCLAS ANKARA 008695

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR EB/IFD/ODF, SA/RA, EUR/SE

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TAGS: [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [PREL](#) [AF](#) [TU](#)

SUBJECT: TURKS WILL ATTEND BONN AFGHAN RECONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE

REF: A. SECSTATE 239799

[¶](#)B. ANKARA 8150

[¶](#)1. (U) Turkey will be represented at the Bonn-Petersberg conference on Afghanistan Reconstruction by Ambassador Aydemir Erman, the MFA Deputy U/S and Coordinator for Afghanistan, and Ambassador Okcun, the MFA Coordinator for Afghanistan Reconstruction. Embassy provided Ref A talking points on 11/25 and met with Ambassador Okcun on 11/26.

[¶](#)2. (U) Okcun advised that Turkey's completed reconstruction projects now total \$2.8 million, up from \$1.8 million reported in Ref B. The GOT has also received commitments of \$1.5 million for next year and has set aside another \$4.5 million for possible future use.

[¶](#)3. (U) Turkey intends to focus its reconstruction efforts in four areas: Healthcare, Training, Agriculture and soon-to-start Gender Issues projects, such as those that address women and children's issues. Completed projects breakdown as follows:

-- \$ 314,000 for medicine, medical supplies and equipment, cash assistance to hospitals;
-- \$ 1,760,000 for training of doctors, diplomats, water experts, teachers;
-- \$ 200,000 for infrastructure (telephone network installation);
-- \$ 23,800 for babyfood;
-- \$ 608,936 cash to Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF) and early support to the Afghanistan Interim Authority Fund (AIAF).

-- Other projects in agriculture and health are underway and not calculated above. Citing a statistic that more than 50,000 families in Kabul depend for their survival on the income of children, Okcun said that Turkey's first Gender Issues project would be to establish a multi-purpose community center for vocational training. Four hundred (400) sewing machines and 75 small printing presses are squirreled away for vocational training for women at that as yet unconstructed center.

[¶](#)4. (SBU) Okcun noted that the U.S. is constructing a healthcare facility in Menkucek (ph) and advised that Turkey is more than willing to train Afghan medical professionals to staff it or to assist USG in anyway.

[¶](#)5. (U) Minimize considered.

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